

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05
CIAE-00 MC-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 IGA-01 PRS-01 USIA-01
NEAE-00 EB-03 /044 W
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P R 111435Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6427
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
USCINCEUR
HQ USAF WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ANKARA 1087

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MASS, TU
SUBJECT: FMS SUPPORT OF F-4 PROGRAM -- PRESS COMMENT

REF: (A) ANKARA 951 (DTG 081128Z FEB 77); (B) ANKARA 674,
(DTG 281325Z JAN 77)

1. FOLLOWING IS A FULL TRANSLATION OF ARTICLE WHICH APPEARED UNDER
HEADLINE "ARRIVAL OF 40 PHANTOM AIRCRAFT IN JEOPARDY" IN POPULAR
DAILY "HURRIYET" FEB. 11 (STORY HAS NOT APPEARED IN OTHER PAPERS
THUS FAR):

BEING TEXT:

"THE PAYMENT OF THE THIRD INSTALLMENT BY TURKEY FOR 40 PHANTOM
AIRCRAFT, FOR WHICH A PURCHASE AGREEMENT HAS BEEN MADE WITH THE
UNITED STATES AND WHICH ARE KNOWN TO MAKE AN IMPORTANT CONTRI-
BUTION TO OUR AIR POWER, IS NOW IN JEOPARDY. PERIODIC INSTALL-
MENTS OF PAYMENT FOR THE AIRCRAFT HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED FOR THEIR
TIMELY DELIVERY. THE AMOUNT TO BE PAID BY TURKEY FOR THE
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PURCHASE OF THE AIRCRAFT HAD BEEN SET AT \$450 MILLION. ACCORDING
TO THE INFORMATION WE HAVE RECEIVED, TURKEY HAS PAID THE FIRST
INSTALLMENT TO MCDONNELL-DOUGLAS COMPANY, THE MANUFACTURER OF THE
AIRCRAFT. EACH INSTALLMENT REQUIRES A PAYMENT OF APPROXIMATELY
\$60 MILLION. TURKEY MET THE PAYMENT OF TWO INSTALLMENTS DURING
THE FORD ADMINISTRATION FROM \$125 MILLION MILITARY ASSISTANCE (SIC)
ACCORDED TO TURKEY TO MEET ITS MILITARY EXPENDITURES SUBSEQUENT TO

THE EMBARGO DECISION. IF THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT LIFT THE EMBARGO DECISION AND EXTEND ASSISTANCE TO MEET ITS MILITARY EXPENDITURES BEFORE MARCH 31, 1977, TURKEY WILL HAVE TO MEET THE PAYMENT OF THE THIRD INSTALLMENT FROM ITS OWN CURRENCY RESOURCES. ACCORDING TO (UNNAMED) OFFICIALS, THERE IS NO POSSIBILITY FOR PASSAGE OF A DECISION TO LIFT THE ARMS EMBARGO BEFORE MARCH 31, 1977. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS INFORMED TURKEY THAT IT HAS NO INTENTION OF EXERTING PRESSURE ON THE CONGRESS AND THAT IT HAS DECIDED TO RECONSIDER THE (DEFENSE COOPERATION) AGREEMENT. THIS WAY, THE EMBAR O IS NOT BEING LIFTED AND THE PAYMENT OF THE INSTALLMENT OF A CERTAIN AMOUNT IS NOW IN JEOPARDY. IF TURKEY CANNOT MEET THE PAYMENT OF THE THIRD INSTALLMENT BEFORE MARCH 31, 1977, PRODUCTION OF PHANTOM AIRCRAFT ORDERED BY TURKEY WILL BE STOPPED BY THE MANUFACTURER." END TEXT

2. COMMENT: FOREGOING IS FIRST PUBLIC MENTION OF F-4 PROCUREMENT PROBLEM DISCUSSED REFTELS. WHILE WE UNDERSTAND THAT MODALITIES TO CONTINUE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE PROGRAM PENDING APPROVAL OF THE DCA ARE UNDER CONSIDERATION, THERE IS RISK THAT THIS MATTER WILL FURTHER BECOME THE FOCUS OF PUBLIC AND POLITICAL CONCERN.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, POLICIES, PRESS COMMENTS, MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions:
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